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Imagery analysis report

**Recent Developments in the Soviet
Mixed SA-6/-8 Regiments Along the
Sino-Soviet Border (TSR)**

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RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOVIET MIXED SA-6/-8 REGIMENTS ALONG THE SINO-SOVIET BORDER (TSR)

1. (TSR) An analysis of recent imagery of Bezrechnaya Army Barracks AL-1 [redacted] and Dauriya Motorized Rifle Division Headquarters Barracks AL-1/SAM Support (BE [redacted] USSR, showed that the surface-to-air missile (SAM) regiment housed at each of these installations no longer contained a mix of SA-6 and SA-8 systems. Bezrechnaya has reverted to an SA-8 regiment, and Dauriya has reverted to an SA-6 regiment (Figure 1).

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2. (TSR) At Bezrechnaya on [redacted] 17 SA-8 transporter-erector-launchers (TELs) were observed in the SAM regiment, but no SA-6 equipment was present (Figure 2). The last observation of SA-6 equipment at or near Bezrechnaya was on [redacted] when four SA-6 TELs were observed on rail cars north of the installation. A mix of the two systems (Figure 3) had been observed in this regiment since September 1977.

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3. (TSR) At Dauriya on [redacted] 11 SA-6 TELs were observed in the SAM regiment, but no SA-8 equipment was present (Figure 4). This was the highest count of SA-6 TELs seen in the regiment since October 1977. The last observation of SA-8 equipment at the installation was on [redacted] when seven SA-8 TELs were present. Since then, only SA-6 equipment has been seen. A mix of the two systems (Figure 5) had been observed in this regiment since August 1977.

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4. (TSR) In reviewing imagery of the other three mixed regiments along the Sino-Soviet Border, some unusual activity was observed in one of these units. In the SAM regiment at Sary-Ozek Army Barracks AL-1/Headquarters Motorized Rifle Division [redacted] the last time both SAM systems were observed together was on [redacted]. Since that time, only SA-6 equipment has been seen at the installation. Although there has not been any increase in the three firing batteries of SA-6 usually at the installation, the equipment has been moved to a new fence-secured vehicle park, indicating that some change in the SAM regiment is underway.

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5. (TSR) In the other two mixed regiments at Blagoveshchensk Motorized Rifle Division Headquarters Amur River AL-1 ([redacted]) and Belogorsk Motorized Rifle Division Headquarters/Barracks AL-1 ([redacted]) no unusual activity has been observed in recent months. However, the SAM equipment at those installations has usually been kept in storage buildings which make it difficult to determine if a change in the composition of the regiments has occurred. Because of the recent developments in the other mixed regiments, it is possible that some changes in these units may have taken place or may be planned.

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(S) Comments and queries regarding this report are welcome. They may be directed to [redacted] Warsaw Pact Forces Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, [redacted]

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